

THE KABUL TIMES

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Books not violating Islamic Sharia principles allowed to be published, Farahi

KABUL: The meeting of the Book Evaluation Commission was held with the Deputy Minister of Information and Culture for the Publications Affairs, Mawlavi Muhajer Farahi, on the chair, evaluating a number of books, the ministry said in a statement Monday.



Mawlavi Farahi talked about the achievements and decisions of the previous meeting and added that books that do not conflict with the principles of Sharia and national values are allowed to be published, according to the statement.

The members of the commission evaluated a number of books, the statement said, adding that the commission's annual report has also been shared with the participants.

The commission decided to allow the publication of those books that have been written according to Islamic and Afghan values, the statement added.

Also, a number of books that have been presented to the commission for assessment were distributed to the commission's members, and they were instructed to evaluate and share their findings in the next meeting. **The Kabul Times**

Kabul, Islamabad discuss trade, transit cooperation



KABUL: Mohammad Yunus Mohmand, the First Vice President of the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Investment, visited Pakistan to discuss enhancement of bilateral trade and transit cooperation, the ACCI said in a statement the other day.

During a meeting with the President of the Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Investment in Islamabad, he discussed the recent closure of Pakistani ports, and described as economically damaging and a breach of international trade norms, according to the statement. The Pakistani official pledged cooperation in resolving transit issues, offering a glimmer of hope for improved trade between the two nations.

The Kabul Times

Balkh, Nangarhar signed agreement to expand urban connections

KABUL: The municipalities of Balkh and Nangarhar provinces have signed a cooperation agreement to strengthen joint collaboration and expand urban connections.

According to the agreement, both sides will cooperate in urban development, improving city order, and beautification of cities.

"This agreement was signed to connect communities, strengthen friendships, preserve cultural and historical values, and improve urban structures," Mohammad Ishaq Saeed, the deputy mayor of Jalalabad said.

"We will establish committees within our departments to review and implement the provisions of this agreement to ensure the proper execution of the planned programs," Mohammad Nasib Abid, the deputy mayor of Mazar-e-Sharif said.

Officials from the advisory boards of both municipalities consider such agreements an effective step toward improving urban services and emphasize the continuation of this cooperation.

"The more experiences and information are shared between these two institutions, the stronger the cooperation will become, leading to improved urban services," stated Mohammad Asif Shinwari, a member of the Jalalabad Municipality Advisory Board.

"We must utilize each other's experiences in areas such as reconstruction, urban management, green space development, and increasing municipal revenues," said Qudratullah, a member of the Mazar-e-Sharif Municipality Advisory Board.

Previously, multiple meetings had been held between the municipalities of Jalalabad and Mazar-e-Sharif to discuss bilateral cooperation and exchange experiences, which have yielded positive results.

The Kabul Times

Fifty tons of smuggled items seized in 2 weeks, ministry



KABUL: The Ministry of Finance said Sunday that 50 tons of smuggled goods have been seized before being imported into the country's ports in the past two weeks.

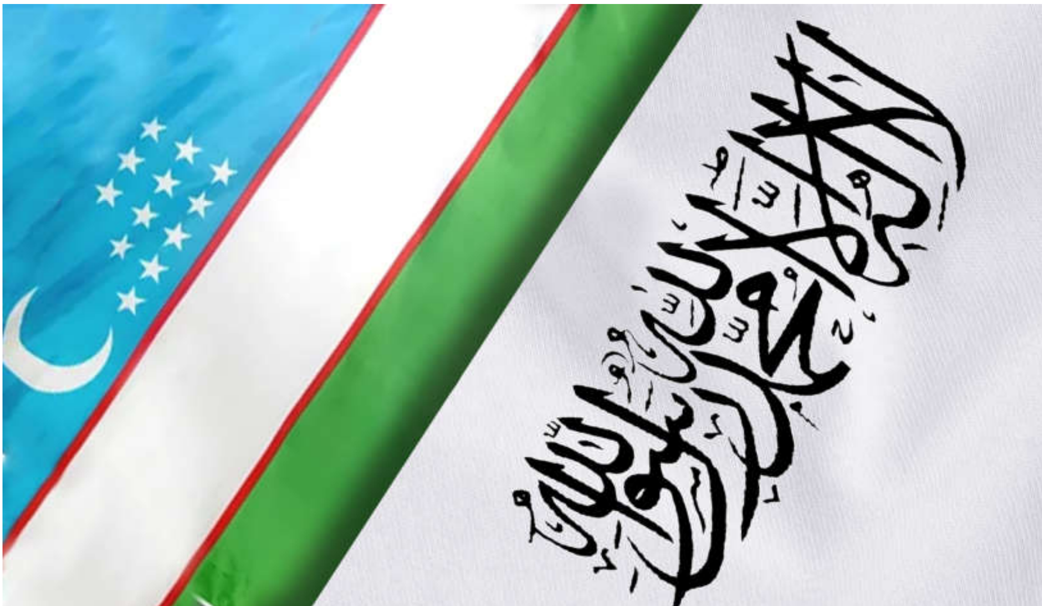
The monitoring teams of the Customs Department prevented the entry of 50,000 kilograms of smuggled goods into Nimroz, Kandahar, Farah, Nangarhar, and Helmand provinces, the statement said. "Smugglers had planned to import various goods including foodstuff, clothes, paint, anti-rust materials, and plastic items into the country through ports without paying customs duties and due efforts of the crossings' personnel, their plan has been thwarted and the commodities confiscated," the statement said.

The individuals who were involved in the smuggling of the goods have been arrested and taken to the relevant judicial organs.

A month ago, dozens of tons of smuggled goods that were intended to be illegally imported into the country were also prevented from entering the country.

The Kabul Times

Afghan, Uzbek officials discuss health online



KABUL: Mawlavi Hamdullah Zahid, the Deputy Minister of Public Health for Food and Drugs, via an online meeting with the Deputy Minister of Food and Drugs of Uzbekistan, Abdullah Azizov, discussed strengthening bilateral health relations, the ministry said in a statement Monday. Underscoring the critical importance of strengthening bilateral relations, particularly in the sectors of food and drugs between the two countries, Mawlavi Zahid urged the Uzbek side to prioritize the capacity building of professionals in the food and drugs field, the statement added.

He also expressed the desire for a memorandum of understanding to be signed, specifically for addressing the regulation and control of food products between Afghanistan and Uzbekistan.

Meanwhile, Abdullah Azizov, the Deputy Minister of Food and Drugs of Uzbekistan, reiterated his country's commitment to sustaining comprehensive cooperation in the sector.

Moreover, Azizov confirmed that he would soon travel to Afghanistan to foster further coordination and engage in discussions with officials from the Ministry of Public Health regarding enhanced collaboration in the fields of food and drugs.

The Kabul Times

Japan donates $7 million to Afghanistan



KABUL: The World Food Program (WFP) said Monday in a statement that Japan has provided $7 million to Afghanistan to combat hunger and malnutrition in the country.

The aid package will be used to support emergency food assistance, prevent malnutrition, and strengthen school feeding programs in Afghanistan, the statement said. According to the statement, nearly 30,000 families, representing more than 200,000 people, will benefit from the food aid for three months.

The Kabul Times

Fresh fruits worth $143 mln exported in less than one year



KABUL: The spokesman of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Akundzada Abdul Salam Jawad said the other day that fresh fruits worth $143 million have been exported to the world markets within the past months of the current solar year.

"During 11 months of the ongoing solar year, 296,000 metric tons of fresh fruits including grapes, pomegranates, figs, apricots, cherries, berries, melons, blackberries and watermelons have been exported to 12 countries, indicating a significant increase comparing to the previous year," Akundzada said. According to him, the fruits have been exported to Pakistan, India, the United Arab Emirates, China, the UK, the Netherlands, the United States, France, Australia, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Canada. Previously, the ministry has reported that 115,000 tons of dried fruits, worth over 350 million U.S. dollars had been exported to China, India, Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates, Russia, Uzbekistan, Canada, Britain and the United States.

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Food for thought

Today's generation guarantees our bright future

Avoid raising prices during fasting days

Every year, during the holy month of Ramadan food items prices rise and sellers resort to gouging their customers as most of the Afghan citizens are not capable of purchasing their daily essentials with no or less income.

Grocery sales in the capital saw a surge on the first day of Ramadan. Despite markets becoming full of merchandise and becoming more active compared to the past few days, food prices have increased, facing impoverished citizens with intolerable expenditures.

The prices set by the municipality are reasonable but some shopkeepers violate the rules and sell food items with high prices that many people cannot afford purchasing essential foods.

Under Islamic teachings, hoarding goods and gouging prices are unlawful, particularly during the holy month of Ramadan.

The Islamic Emirate's relevant organs in coordination with the Kabul Municipality should seriously monitor the prices and prevent them wherever the sellers are reported offering food items overpriced, particularly during the holy fasting days, prevent them and bring the violators to law.

The country's national traders and charity organizations should also join hands to help their fellow citizens break their fast with sufficient food.

On the other hand, the country's customs houses should strictly be controlled by the relevant ministry and the markets should be managed with a long-term pricing regulation with the municipality appointing honest employees to monitor the process.

This is the demand of the people from the Islamic Emirate's organs concerned, especially the Kabul Municipality to make efforts to stabilize the prices of essential goods and take legal action against price gougers, while there is not much height in the price of the dollar, something the sellers bring excuse for the hike of the prices.

Key responsibilities of the government throughout Ramadan

Part I

One of the most important responsibilities of the government during Ramadan is organizing educational and cultural programs to enhance citizens' religious understanding.



The holy month of Ramadan is one of the most blessed and beloved months among Muslims worldwide.

During this month, Muslims observe fasting and engage in worship to strengthen their connection with Allah Almighty, striving to benefit from the blessings and rewards of this sacred time.

Beyond acts of worship and fasting, Ramadan serves as an opportunity to deepen social bonds and promote Islamic values within society.

The spirituality of the community flourishes in this month, as people make efforts to honor Islamic principles and implement the commandments of the noble religion of Islam in their lives.

Ramadan is the month in which the Holy Quran was revealed as a guide for humanity. It is a time for strengthening faith, piety, and ethics among Muslims.

From dawn until sunset, Muslims fast, perform special prayers like Taraweeh, and engage in supplications, seeking to draw closer to their Creator.

Fasting brings numerous benefits, not only physically but also spiritually and emotionally. In this article, we aim to examine the role and responsibilities of the state in creating suitable conditions for the observance of Ramadan and the implementation of Islamic values. Our goal is to help officials recognize the significance of their duties and guide them toward righteous actions.

Since governments in Islamic countries play a crucial role in preparing society for the arrival of Ramadan, responsible authorities—especially relevant institutions—are obligated to psychologically prepare the people before this sacred month begins and to educate them about its importance and status.

The fundamental responsibilities of officials include creating a conducive environment for religious observances, supporting the needy, regulating markets, ensuring the availability of essential goods, and preparing the public mindset to welcome and utilize the opportunities of Ramadan.

The government should use educational and promotional programs through ministries such as the Ministry of Information and Culture, the Ministry for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice, and the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Hajj to educate people about the significance of Ramadan and spread Islamic values. Facilitating worship, equipping mosques and prayer spaces, and ensuring the security of these places are also among the state's crucial duties during this month.

One of the most important responsibilities of the government during Ramadan is organizing educational and cultural programs to enhance citizens' religious understanding.

The government can arrange study circles, training courses, and cultural seminars to remind people of the significance and benefits of fasting and other acts of worship during Ramadan.

These educational initiatives not only familiarize people with the true essence of Islam but also expand their awareness and knowledge of this blessed month.

This initiative, along with educational and awareness efforts, serves as a valuable step in counteracting the negative consequences of two decades of foreign occupation. Furthermore, promoting a culture of cooperation and social solidarity through group activities and Ramadan-related competitions is another important step that the government can take through relevant institutions.

As previously mentioned, implementing Islamic values in society not only helps preserve the faith of the people but also contributes to the stability of the government.

The more people connect with Islamic teachings, the more they are inclined to accept and abide by the laws and directives issued by the government.

The fundamental duties of an Islamic government include establishing justice in society, combating corruption and injustice, protecting human rights, and ensuring public welfare. Additionally, by encouraging ethical conduct and promoting Islamic values such as honesty, truthfulness, and respect for others' rights, the state can help elevate the spiritual standing of the community.

Ramadan is an opportunity to strengthen faith and piety in society and to promote Islamic values. During this month, governments bear numerous responsibilities, primarily focused on creating the necessary conditions for people's worship and fasting. Given the current challenges, one of the most pressing issues is market regulation and price control, which should be the government's top priority. Additionally, supporting the needy, facilitating worship, providing education and awareness, maintaining security and public order, and promoting Islamic values are among the key obligations that state institutions must oversee with serious attention during this month.

By properly fulfilling these responsibilities, governments can contribute to social cohesion and unity while also ensuring their own stability and strengthening faith in society. In the upcoming sections, we will further elaborate on each of these aspects to provide a more detailed discussion.

FiroozAhmad Ebrahimi



Closing gates and borders never solves problems



The Torkham crossing point between Afghanistan and Pakistan is considered a key economic route for both countries, but unfortunately, the gate is still closed to all types of traffic by Pakistan.

It is not the first time that this vital route has been closed, but political differences have repeatedly resulted in the closure of the gate as such trick had been sued as pressure in the past.

Such closures not only cause economic losses to traders, but also cause severe hardship to the common people, especially patients, students, workers and commuters.

The closure of Torkham, which has now been in place for over ten days, has caused hardship to many people on both sides.

Trade transactions have been disrupted, with traders and freight vehicles stuck for days, which not only causes economic losses but also increases the risk of fresh fruits, vegetables and medicines spoiled.

The important thing is that politics and trade should never mix. According to international principles, trade routes, health services, and humanitarian aid should be kept away from political conflicts, as they are essential for the economic stability and well-being of nations.

The experience of repeated closures of the Torkham crossing point shows that such actions are not in the interest of both Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Both countries should seek lasting solutions instead of temporary closures.

The only effective way to resolve problems is negotiations. Both sides should avoid emotional decisions and resolve these problems through mutual understanding.

Establishing a sustainable trade agreement, ensuring the safe movement of humanitarian aid, and facilitating movement for patients and the general public are steps that can benefit both sides.

Closed-door politics does not benefit either country but rather increases mistrust and economic losses between the two nations.

Pakistan and Afghanistan should prioritize the opening of the Torkham crossing point, not for political gain, but for the well-being of the people and economic stability of the two countries.

It is the time for both sides to resolve their problems through dialogue, so that this key route can always kept open for trade, humanitarian aid, commuters.

The closure of Torkham gate has adversely affected bilateral and regional trade and caused trade and financial losses to the common mercantile class on both sides.

On the other hand, many travelers have been also stuck on each side of the crossing point. It is worth mentioning that the Torkham crossing point, considered one of the key crossing points between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Pakistan shut the crossing point, one of the two main crossings between the two neighboring countries for travelers and traffic for the past over ten days.

Fida Mohammad

Why should Muslim scholars lead in science and technology?



Throughout history, prophets were pioneers in various fields, always ahead of their time in their daily tasks and responsibilities.

Their leadership was not confined to spiritual and moral guidance; they also played an essential role in advancing knowledge and technology suitable for their respective eras. In today's world, Muslim scholars must follow the same path and take the lead in scientific, military, and technological advancements.

However, despite the necessity of such progress, many contemporary scholars remain hesitant, failing to fully grasp the importance of advancing in these critical areas.

Prophets were not just religious figures; they were also innovators, strategists, and problem-solvers in their societies.

They understood the significance of knowledge and its application in everyday life. For example, Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) emphasized the importance of seeking knowledge, famously stating, "Seek knowledge even if it takes you to China." This highlights the necessity of continuous learning and exploration.

Similarly, Prophet Yusuf (Joseph) played a crucial role in economic planning during a time of crisis, demonstrating administrative and strategic expertise.

Such examples indicate that religious leadership historically encompassed scientific, economic, and strategic advancements.

In the modern world, science and technology play an integral role in shaping societies.

From artificial intelligence to renewable energy, from space exploration to biotechnology, these advancements determine the strength and influence of nations.

While many non-Muslim nations have embraced these fields, a significant portion of the Muslim world still lags behind due to hesitation, lack of awareness, or insufficient efforts to integrate modern knowledge into traditional scholarly domains.

This lag not only affects economic and technological progress but also weakens the position of Muslim communities on the global stage.

To address this gap, Muslim scholars must recognize that embracing scientific and technological advancements does not contradict religious teachings.

On the contrary, Islam encourages exploration, research, and innovation. The Quran itself calls upon believers to observe and reflect on the natural world, indicating the necessity of scientific inquiry.

Furthermore, the history of Islamic civilization is filled with pioneering contributions in medicine, mathematics, engineering, and astronomy. Scholars like Al-Khwarizmi, Avicenna, and Al-Farabi exemplified the perfect blend of religious wisdom and scientific inquiry.

One of the key areas where technology can play a crucial role is in the dissemination of Islamic teachings.

In an era dominated by digital platforms, social media, artificial intelligence, and online learning, scholars must harness these tools to effectively spread the message of Islam.

Traditional methods of preaching and education, though valuable, are no longer sufficient to reach global audiences.

Websites, applications, virtual learning platforms, and AI-driven educational tools can significantly enhance the reach and impact of Islamic knowledge.

Despite these opportunities, some scholars remain reluctant to engage with modern technology.

This hesitation stems from a lack of familiarity, concerns over ethical implications, or a misunderstanding of how technology can be utilized positively.

It is imperative to overcome such barriers by integrating technological literacy into religious education and encouraging scholars to actively participate in digital platforms.

Failure to adapt to scientific and technological advancements can have serious consequences for the Muslim world. See P4

Environmental protection our shared responsibility

The environment, on which our health, economy and social development depend, is a fundamental part of our lives, but unfortunately, our nature is facing unprecedented threats due to human activities.

Environmental protection has become a pressing concern in our modern world.

As we continue to witness the devastating effects of climate change, deforestation, pollution, and habitat destruction, it has become abundantly clear that we must take immediate action to safeguard our planet for future generations.

The Earth's environment is facing unprecedented challenges that threaten the delicate balance of ecosystems, biodiversity, and the overall well-being of our planet.

These challenges are driven by human activities, including industrialization, overconsumption, and the relentless pursuit of economic growth.

The consequences are dire and include climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, resource depletion and waste management.

• Climate Change: The Earth's climate is rapidly warming due to the emission of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide and methane. This leads to rising global temperatures, more frequent extreme weather events, and the melting of polar ice caps.

• Biodiversity Loss: Human activities, such as deforestation, habitat destruction, and pollution, are driving species to extinction at an alarming rate. The loss of biodiversity threatens ecosystem stability and the services they provide, including clean air and water.

• Pollution: Pollution of our air, water, and soil is a pervasive problem. The release of pollutants into the environment harms human health, damages ecosystems, and disrupts the natural balance.

• Resource Depletion: Our current rate of resource consumption is unsustainable. We are depleting natural resources like freshwater, forests, and minerals faster than the Earth can regenerate them.

• Waste Management: The production of waste, particularly non-biodegradable plastics, is overwhelming our planet. Landfills and oceanic plastic waste islands are stark reminders of our failure to manage waste responsibly.

Despite increasing challenges that hinder progress to environmental protection, there are several steps we can collectively take to protect the environment and mitigate the impact of human activities:

• Transition to Clean Energy: We must accelerate the shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and hydropower. Governments should provide incentives and invest in clean energy infrastructure.

• Conservation and Reforestation: Protecting existing forests and undertaking reforestation efforts are essential to combat deforestation and preserve biodiversity. Forests act as carbon sinks and provide habitat for countless species. • Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Individuals and industries should prioritize waste reduction and recycling to minimize the environmental impact of products and materials. Reducing single-use plastics is especially important.

• Sustainable Agriculture: Promoting sustainable farming practices can reduce soil erosion, minimize the use of pesticides and fertilizers, and protect biodiversity.

• Environmental Education: Schools, communities, and organizations should prioritize environmental education to raise awareness and inspire sustainable behaviors.

• Support Conservation Initiatives: Contributing to and volunteering with organizations dedicated to environmental protection and wildlife conservation can make a significant difference.

• Advocate for Policy Change: Engage with your local and national governments to advocate for policies that prioritize environmental protection, such as carbon pricing and emissions reduction targets.

• Reduce Consumption: Adopt a more mindful approach to consumption. Choose products with minimal packaging, prioritize quality over quantity, and embrace a more sustainable lifestyle.

Environmental protection is not an optional endeavor but a moral and practical imperative.

Our country is at a critical juncture, and the decisions we make today will determine the quality of life for future generations.

It is the time to possess the knowledge, technology, and collective will to address them. By transitioning to cleaner energy, conserving our natural resources, reducing waste, and advocating for policy change, we can create a more sustainable and harmonious relationship with the environment.

It's time for each of us to recognize our role as stewards of the Earth and take action to protect the only home we have.

If we protect our environment, we will reap the benefits of health, clean air, and a prosperous life. But if we destroy it, not only we, but also future generations will suffer the consequences of our irresponsible behavior.

Every individual, every household, and every organization must take practical steps to protect the environment. Let us keep this world clean, green, and livable for ourselves and future generations.

Mukhtar Safi

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USD	GBP	INR	PKR	EUR	IRR	AED
01	01	1000	1000	01	1000	01
AFN	AFN	AFN	AFN	AFN	AFN	AFN
72.95	91.86	834	251	75.92	01.32	19.92



Ibrahim Zadran secures third spot in ICC Champions Trophy group stage runs chart



With the conclusion of the ICC Champions Trophy group stage, Afghan cricketer Ibrahim Zadran has emerged as the third-highest run-scorer, accumulating a total of 216 runs. His consistent performances have played a crucial role in Afghanistan's campaign, showcasing his skill and resilience on the international stage.

Two English players, Ben Duckett and Joe Root, have claimed the top two spots on the runs chart. Duckett leads with 227 runs, while Root follows closely with 225 runs. Their performances have been instrumental in England's progress, highlighting their dominance with the bat throughout the tournament.

Zadran's achievement marks a significant milestone for Afghanistan, as he continues to establish himself as one of the team's most reliable batsmen. His ability to perform against top cricketing nations demonstrates Afghanistan's growing strength in world cricket.

With the group stage now complete, all eyes are on the knockout rounds, where teams will battle for the prestigious title. Afghanistan's journey in the tournament has already drawn praise, and fans eagerly await the team's next challenges.

Zadran's impressive tally not only highlights his personal form but also underscores Afghanistan's rising stature in international cricket. As the tournament progresses, his contributions will be key to Afghanistan's success, making him a player to watch in the upcoming matches.

The Kabul Times

Unified-style Martial Arts competitions held in Herat



The Herat branch of the Martial Arts Federation successfully organized Unified Style competitions, featuring the participation of 80 athletes. The event brought together martial artists from 14 different clubs, competing across three age categories: teenagers, youth, and adults.

This highly anticipated competition provided a platform for athletes to showcase their skills and techniques in a challenging yet sportsmanlike environment. The event highlighted the growing popularity of martial arts in the region, offering an opportunity for both emerging and experienced fighters to test their abilities.

Organizers emphasized the importance of such competitions in promoting discipline, physical fitness, and sportsmanship among the participants. The tournament also served as a talent-scouting opportunity, helping to identify promising athletes who could represent the province or even the country in national and international martial arts events.

Spectators and martial arts enthusiasts gathered to witness intense and competitive match-ups, as participants displayed high levels of skill and determination. The competition was not only a test of physical strength but also of strategy, mental resilience, and discipline—key attributes in martial arts.

With the successful completion of this event, the Martial Arts Federation in Herat aims to continue organizing similar tournaments to further develop and promote martial arts in the province. Such initiatives play a vital role in encouraging young athletes to pursue the sport professionally and contribute to the overall growth of martial arts in Afghanistan. The tournament's success reaffirmed the region's commitment to fostering a strong and competitive martial arts community, inspiring future athletes to engage in this dynamic sport.

The Kabul Times

Barcelona tops La Liga table after dominant victory

At the end of Match week 26 in the Spanish La Liga, FC Barcelona has climbed to the top of the league table after a convincing 4-0 victory against Real Sociedad. With this win, Barcelona has accumulated 57 points, overtaking their closest rivals in the race for the title.

Atletico Madrid currently sits in second place with 56 points, while Real Madrid, one of Barcelona's main competitors, is in third place with 54 points. The latest results have intensified the competition at the top of the table, making the remaining fixtures crucial for all title contenders.

Barcelona's dominant performance against Real Sociedad showcased their attacking prowess and defensive solidity. The team's ability to control the game and secure a comfortable victory highlights their strong form as the season progresses. With the league entering its decisive phase,



Barcelona will aim to maintain their position at the top and push for another La Liga title.

The battle for the championship remains highly competitive, with Atletico Madrid and Real Madrid closely following behind. As the season nears its final stretch, fans can expect thrilling encounters and intense competition among Spain's top clubs.

With their latest victory, Barcelona has sent a strong message to their rivals, proving that they are determined to finish the season as league champions. The upcoming matches will be crucial in deciding the fate of La Liga's top teams.

he Kabul Times

Russia blames technical issue for fire at Ufa refinery



A fire doused on Monday after burning for hours overnight was sparked by technical issues at the Ufimsky oil refinery in the Russian city of Ufa, authorities said on Monday, but gave no further details.

The Bashneft-owned refinery, about 1,500 km (932 miles) east of the border with Ukraine, has capacity of 168,000 barrels per day, LSEG data shows, with Russian media saying its oil supply comes mainly from surrounding Bashkiria and western Siberia.

"The fire is related to technical issues," the region's emergency ministry said on the Telegram messaging app, citing initial findings. The fire broke out near a furnace, it added.

Bashneft's press service told the Interfax news agency that the fire did not affect the main production facilities. Earlier, the emergency ministry said no excess of harmful substances was recorded in the air near the refinery.

About 100 firefighters helped battle the fire, which was finally put out at about 8 a.m. (0500 GMT) Interfax said.

Several Russian channels on Telegram, including the SHOT Telegram, said the fire followed an explosion at the refinery, but Reuters could not independently verify the reports.

There were no overnight reports of a drone attack on Bashkiria, sandwiched between the Volga river and the Ural mountains.

The Russian defense ministry said its air defense units downed seven Ukrainian drones overnight over Russia, but Bashkiria did not figure on its list.

The ministry gives only a tally of destroyed drones, not the number launched.

There was no immediate comment from Ukraine. Its forces have systematically targeted Russian energy infrastructure to try to disrupt Russia's economy and the ability to fund the war in Ukraine.

Alarabiya

Ukraine's Zelenskyy 'ready' for minerals deal after bust-up with Trump

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has said a minerals deal with the United States is "ready" to be signed despite his public bust-up with US President Donald Trump.

Speaking to journalists after a pivotal summit with European leaders in London on Sunday, Zelenskyy said Kyiv was ready to go forward with the agreement, which fell through following a public clash with Trump on Friday.

"It is our policy to continue despite what happened in the past. We are constructive. If we agreed upon signing it, we were ready to sign it. And honestly, I believe that the United States is ready as well," Zelenskyy told a group of reporters at London Stansted airport via a translator.

"Perhaps there is a need in time to analyse certain things, but I just want the Ukrainian position to be heard. It was very important to me that the Ukrainian position is heard."

Zelenskyy expressed confidence that relations with Trump could be salvaged and that his administration would not cut off assistance to Kyiv.

"I think our relations will continue. Because this is more than relations at a certain moment," the



Ukrainian leader said.

"We must be open. Ukraine is not the biggest country in the world but everyone can see how it fights for its independence and freedom."

"We count on assistance from the United States without a doubt," he added.

"I think stopping such assistance will only help Putin. And because of that, I think the United States and representatives of the civilised world, leaders of this world definitely won't help Putin."

Zelenskyy's remarks came at the end of a two-day visit to the United Kingdom, during which European leaders sought to present a united front in support of Ukraine and salvage efforts to bring an end to its war with Russia.

At a landmark summit in London, UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer said his country and France would gather a "coalition of the willing" to draw up a peace plan to present to Trump.

"We are at a crossroads in history today," Starmer said, calling on his European counterparts to step up to a "once-in-a-generation moment" for the security of the continent.

"This is not a moment for more talk. It's time to act. Time to step up and lead and to unite around a new plan for a just and enduring peace."

Aljazeera

From P3

Why should Muslim scholars...

Without leadership in these areas, Muslims risk continued economic dependence, technological inferiority, and geopolitical weakness.

Moreover, without engagement in cutting-edge research, Muslims may find themselves as mere consumers of technology rather than contributors to its development.

This dependency limits the ability to shape global narratives and defend Islamic values effectively in an ever-evolving world.

Furthermore, technological advancements are closely linked to national security and defense. In an age where cyber warfare, artificial intelligence, and space exploration define global power dynamics, Muslim scholars and leaders must understand and support scientific growth.

The failure to do so leaves Muslim nations vulnerable and unable to safeguard their interests effectively.

To ensure progress and self-sufficiency, Muslim scholars must actively engage with science and technology.

Institutions should prioritize research and innovation while ensuring that young Muslim minds are encouraged to explore and excel in these fields.

Collaboration between religious scholars and scientists can lead to the development of ethical and socially responsible technological advancements that align with Islamic values.

It is also necessary to establish centers of excellence where religious knowledge and modern sciences are integrated.

Such institutions can serve as hubs for producing scholars who are well-versed in both Islamic teachings and contemporary sciences. By fostering an environment that values both faith and intellect, the Muslim world can regain its historical position as a leader in knowledge and innovation.

The progress and freedom of the Muslim community depend on its ability to embrace science and technology.

Just as prophets led in their respective times, today's Muslim scholars must take the initiative to drive advancements in these fields.

This is not merely an option but a necessity for the survival and prosperity of the Islamic world. Without a shift in mindset and approach, true liberation and success will remain unattainable.

It is time for scholars to lead the way, ensuring that faith and progress go hand in hand toward a brighter future for the Muslim ummah.

Sayed Sharif